

TEXT OF CLAIMS CURRENTLY UNDER EXAMINATION:

1 to 13 (Canceled)

14. (previously presented) A method for reducing freeze/thaw voids in an uncured adhesive consisting essentially of:

- (a) providing a container with walls of a thermoplastic material in which the walls have
  - (i) a flexural modulus of less than or equal to 1240 MPa, and
  - (ii) a thickness of 0.0254 to 1.524 mm and a mean roughness value ( $R_a$ ) of greater than 0.3  $\mu\text{m}$ , or
  - (iii) a thickness of 0.0254 mm to 0.762 mm;
- (b) filling the container with the uncured adhesive;
- (c) freezing the uncured adhesive within the container;
- (d) thawing the uncured adhesive;

characterized in that the thawed uncured adhesive contains fewer freeze/thaw voids than would be contained in an adhesive frozen and thawed in a container not meeting the limitations of (a)(i), and (ii) or (iii).

15. (previously presented) The method according to claim 14 in which the thermoplastic material is selected from the group consisting of polyethylene, ethylene-ethyl acrylate copolymer, ethylene-vinyl acetate copolymer, high density polyethylene, low density polyethylene, ethylene-octene copolymer, ethylene-hexene copolymer, ethylene-butene copolymer, polypropylene homopolymer, polypropylene copolymer, and polypropylene random copolymer.

16. (previously presented) The method according to claim 14 in which the container is a syringe or a syringe contained within a rigid sleeve.